

Benco 36-26-26-30-26

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method comprising:
maintaining a subscriber database including indicia of multiple
communication units of a subscriber;
5 determining an active unit of the multiple communication units;
designating the active unit in the subscriber database; and
providing service to the active unit.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining an active unit is
10 accomplished upon service provisioning of one of the multiple communication units.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining an active unit is
accomplished responsive to a subscriber selection of an active unit.
- 15 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the step of determining an active unit is
periodically re-accomplished responsive to one or more subscriber requests to change
active units.
5. The method of claim 4, comprising:
20 receiving a subscriber request to change designation of the active unit of the
multiple communication units from a present active unit to a new active unit;
designating the new active unit in the subscriber database; and
providing service to the new active unit under the shared service plan.
- 25 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the subscriber database includes indicia of
multiple communication units of a subscriber sharing a directory number, the step of
determining an active unit comprises selecting, from among the multiple
communication units, a single unit designated as the active unit.
- 30 7. The method of claim 6, wherein the step of providing service to the active
unit comprises:
receiving a call request to the directory number;

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consulting the database to determine the active unit of the multiple communication units; and
routing the call to the active unit.

5 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the step of providing service further comprises:

obtaining billing information associated with the call; and
recording the billing information in the subscriber database.

10 9. In a communication system including a plurality of wireless communication units operably connected to a mobile switching center (MSC), whereby two or more units of the plurality of wireless units share the same directory number, a method comprising the MSC performing steps of:

receiving a call request directed to the directory number;

15 consulting a database to determine a multiple device feature status associated with the directory number;

if the multiple device feature is enabled, consulting the database to determine an active unit from among the two or more units sharing the directory number; and
routing the call to the active unit.

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10. In a communication system providing a service to a subscriber under a wireless service plan, the wireless service plan having one or more service thresholds, a method comprising:

25 maintaining a subscriber database including indicia of multiple wireless units of the subscriber sharing the wireless service plan;

monitoring subscriber activity among the multiple wireless units relative to the one or more service thresholds, the subscriber activity defining a collective amount of service provided to the multiple wireless units within a billing period associated with the wireless service plan; and

30 billing the subscriber activity according to the wireless service plan.